



January 20, 2021

Frederick County Sustainability Commission

Meeting Minutes



The meeting was held via WebEx.

Per current practice, the meeting is also streamed live on Facebook at Frederick County Sustainability Commission and made available via phone (**1-855-925-2801, Code 9813**) for listening.

Present: Chair: Elizabeth Law, Secretary: Mark Sankey, Bill Steigelman, Jennifer Bird, John Ferri, Jim Reed

Frederick County Council Liaison: Not Represented

OSER staff: Shannon Moore, Dawn Ashbacher

Guests/Public: None

Opening:

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm by Betty Law and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

Mark Sankey asked for any discussion on the minutes of the Commission meeting of November 18, 2020. The minutes were approved by the Commissioners unanimously without comment.

Discussion/Vote - Goals for the Year – All

- P.A.C.E. – Dawn commented that a group is working on a focus group with energy contractors, and this is being promoted through the Office of Economic Development and others.
- Healthy Buildings-Green Buildings – Betty suggested forming a sub-committee to increase public awareness of the importance of CO monitors. She offered to draft a document which could be used for the public. This would include training on safe practices and warnings. This can be reviewed at our next meeting.
- Ongoing Projects
 - Sustainability Awards – Dawn proposed that a virtual event for combined presentation of the 2020 and 2021 awards be held later this year.

- Creek ReLeaf Support – Dawn reported the 2020 participants for the program have been approved. The 2021 program is in progress its review by the Sustainability Commission is planned for a May to November timeframe.
- Livable Frederick Initiatives
 - Sugarloaf Plan – In progress.
 - South Frederick Corridor Plan – Committee efforts continue
- Microgrids – Bill S. has been working diligently and a grant application for a Jefferson Ruritan facility is forthcoming. He is also working on a briefing paper.

Climate Emergency Mobilization Work Group (CEMWG) - Update - Barb Trader, CEMWG Co-leader

- The Group has passed through the initial period of organization, member evaluations, and establishing subgroups.
- Stakeholder engagement and consideration of impacts on society have been discussed.
- The Group developed criteria for evaluation of ideas and prioritized them to be effective.
- Outreach is in progress to households, faith groups, green teams, and business groups including the County Chamber of Commerce.
- Barb mentioned Kathryn Hayhoe as an effective voice for addressing climate change and reports available from the Yale Center for Climate Communication.

OSER Update – Shannon Moore and Dawn Ashbacher

- Shannon reports septic pump outs have been completed for 2020. The program covered a large number of systems.
- The County received an award from Potomac Electric for Orchard Park at Ballenger Run. The development team of the Orchard Park at Ballenger Run apartment community in Frederick received the Energy Star award from Potomac Edison. This project was made possible through a team that included Frederick County Executive Jan Gardner and the Frederick County Department of Housing and Community Development.
- FC Frederick (a county soccer club) and the Center for Watershed Protection received a stream restoration design grant from the Chesapeake Bay Trust. The County will partner with these organizations on the project.
- The county recently submitted a proposal to the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Trust Fund and is waiting to hear on its success.
- Dawn will share Metropolitan Washington Council of Government's (MWCOC) update on county 2018 GHG emissions.

Commissioner Interest/Updates

- **MEA Resilient Maryland Funding** – Bill Steigelman

A microgrid grant proposal is nearly complete for a Jefferson Ruritan Club facility which houses a County volunteer fire department. Two groups are working together with Bill.

- **City of Frederick 2020 Comprehensive Plan & Road through Ft. Detrick Area B** – Betty Law

The City Aldermen are considering change to the routing of the Christopher Crossing connection to Route 40 by removing the Fort Detrick section from the Comprehensive Plan. They are working toward a decision.

- **Healthy Buildings** – Betty Law

Betty addressed this under goals for the year.

- **Local Product Delivery Challenges** – Member

Rachel of Sweet Farm is partnering with local businesses for delivery of products. Covid created challenges.

Public Comment

2 minute limit per person

No public attendance or comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 pm. .